The OSCILLATOR

Volume 29 Issue 7
July 2006

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

KK7TN PARAGRAPHS
Don Stettler KK7TN

Congratulations to Will, N7THL; Al, W7SIC; and Wayne, AI9Q; along with the host of volunteers for a successful *Sea-Pac* '06. Early indications are that the convention was successful by any measure. My big purchase this year was a soldering iron. After I made the purchase I put on my "President's Hat" and thanked the exhibitor for coming. My comment initiated a flood of kudos that were along the lines of *Sea-Pac* being the best organized and executed convention that he goes to as an exhibitor.

¶

This year having Field Day at West Union Elementary School the weekend following *Sea-Pac* tested the endurance of club members. I am hearing it proposed that *Sea-Pac* move to a weekend earlier in June. That would certainly help as far as Field Day is concerned. This year we had to compete with a well organized Washington County ARES Field Day in Beaverton and deal with record breaking high temperatures. Even so, OTVARC's Field Day was successful, not so much in the points category but as a test of setting up for emergency communications and a demonstration to non-hams. We did have a number of non-hams stop by with several taking advantage of the opportunity to operate the "Get On The Radio" (GOTA) station.

My thanks to JD, K7JDF, for his leadership

Go To PARAGRAPHS, Page 2

Happy July Birthday

2 Betty Mickley N7REX
2 JimSchaeffer KB7ADH
6 Susan Hurd N7EPE
7 Dee Lynch K7JRB
10 Jim Bonner KD7CJS
12 Russ Fillinger W7LXR
13 Chuck Samuel K7NWM
14 John Anderson KA7BRZ
18 Sharon C. Smith KB7LWX
21 Ronald C. O'Connor KD7VIK
25 Marc Chamberlin WA7PXW
31 Bob Kuhn KU7N

Updates and corrections to w6abm@arrl.net

CLUB MEETING
WEDNESDAY, July 12

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at the **Beaverton Elks' Lodge, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton.** Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Guests are welcome. Come at 6:00 PM to enjoy a no-host dinner from the Elks' Buffet.

This meeting will feature a program on family and home safety by the Washington Co. Sheriff's office.

See you on July 12th. Bring or invite a guest.

OTVARC ADDRESS:
880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

W7OTV SET FOR NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY

The *National Contest Journal* sponsors two popular contests: the North American QSO Party (NAQP) and the North American Sprint. Each contest occurs in three flavors, CW, SSB and RTTY and occurs in most cases twice per year. The next NAQP SSB Contest will take place 1800Z August 19 to 0600Z August 20, 2006 (11:00 AM - 11:00 PM, Saturday August 19.)

OTVARC will field a multi-op team for this year's August SSB QSO Party using the W7OTV call.

This contest is for beginners and seasoned operators alike. With a low-power, multipliers-per-band format, the contest allows stations from all parts of North America to be in the running for the top spots.

The contest includes 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters only, with power limited to 100 watts. Suggested frequencies are 1865, 3850, 7225, 14250, 21300, 28500 kHz. The exchange is the name of the operator and station location.

Multipliers are for each of the 50 US states, 13 provinces and territories of Canada, and other North American countries.

Why not look for your club station on August 19 and join in the fun?

Paragraphs, from Page 1

along with that of Everett, W6ABM; and Steve, KE7EIQ for making the OTVARC Field Day happen again this year.

I enjoyed being involved in the team work and seeing the ingenuity of getting a GOTA station (for non-hams); an HF phone station, a PSK-31 digital station, and an HF CW station up and running. Moving the club's icon, the trailer, with the club's radio gear in it is always a challenge. Gratefully, Will, N7THL; monster pickup was up to the task. I thought that Carl, WS7L; and Paul, KC7PMU; were very clever in solving getting a dipole up utilizing the school's flag pole for one end. Jim, KB7ADH; took the lead in getting several other antennas up. At one point he was wishing for a telescoping mast. I discovered that Dave, W8NF; a participant who has promised me that he will join OTVARC, happened to have brought one. Then Jim needed a soldering iron and George, NF5W; had one of those in his motor home. Will, N7THL, brought a generator and batteries that along with Alvin's (KB7VHI) motor home provided all the power needed. Janet, WB7FJC; and her grandson operated the welcoming and information table. I very much appreciate Claire, N7CM; agreeing to on short notice to organize the Saturday evening potluck. My thanks to Jack, xxx; Gavin, KC7UIL; Ernie, K7EAJ; Mel, KB7PVW; and Linda, KC7YTD; for pitching in to support the activities of Field Day. What we were short of this year were radio operators. Hopefully, we can remedy that problem next year.

Happy Independence Day. Stay cool!

Don

LUNCH BUNCH

Join in a great social event

July 22, 2006
1:30 pm

Happy Panda Restaurant
1415 NW 185th Ave.
Aloha
503-690-2753

Questions?

Contact Linda Sutton, 503.246.8879

FIELD DAY '06 -- West Union School

More than fifty members and guests participated in Field Day '06 at West Union School, June 24-25.

Operating as a club station in classification 3A, three HF stations were established. Two stations were located in a convenient covered play area which sheltered them from the sun and created a small cooling breeze most of the time. These stations were committed to PSK31 and Phone. The third station was located at the opposite end of the school building in the CW trailer.

Preliminary analysis of the station logs indicated that we completed 66 PSK31 contacts. We completed 109 Phone contacts. Our CW operation completed 378 QSOs.

A serious GOTA operation was undertaken using the club trailer. It was set up in the parking area in an arrangement that made it easily available to visiting hams and prospects. The GOTA station operated using the callsign W6ABM. Total contacts for W6ABM were 107.

The CW station was up and running in record time this year. Because of site access we could not set up on Friday. So beginning at about 8:00 am on Saturday we hung a dipole between the West Union School flagpole and a nearby tree, achieving 40 to 50 feet of height, fed with ladder line and an SGC Smart Tuner. We then moved the CW trailer into place, set up radio, computer and batteries, and were on the air by the official starting time of 11:00 a.m. A multi-band vertical was later erected as an alternate but didn't seem to outperform the dipole under any conditions we ran into -- it was a tie at best. Operators Carl WS7L and Dave W8NF kept the station on the air for the full 24 hours and garnered a respectable 378 QSOs.

The GOTA station was in place, antennae erected (dipole and beam) and in operation by 11:15 am. Operation continued until 10:40 am on Sunday. The main station was operable soon after 11:30 am. Jim KB7ADH and Jack KA7HOJ were the primary antennae team. Everett W6ABM and Don W7DPV took primary operating leadership on the GOTA station.

Band conditions were superb and although the sunspot cycle is at its bottom the low noise levels enabled many contacts on 20, 40, and 80 meters as well as a fair number on 15. It was the least stressful overnight run on the low bands that I've had in years. Working through high noise levels at 3:00 a.m. can be mighty tiring. Many members participated in Field Day in one way or another.

Go to FIELD DAY, Page 3

CHIPS from the Board

The Board of Directors met May 24, 2006 at TVF&R Station 67, Beaverton. Don Stettler, KK7TN presided. All board members were present except the following who were excused: Phil Kane, Steve Ward. John Anderson and Rick Banton attended.

Wes Allen reported that the 440.250 machine on Goat Mountain is under our care (not owned but operated by OTVARC). Wes expects to take a first trip to Goat Mountain on May 28th. A tower company has offered to contract with us for the antenna change project on Goat Mountain. This represents a cost savings of in the neighborhood of $1,200.00. The new two-meter antenna is a CushCraft Professional grade 1408S.

A list of equipment donated to the club for sale to benefit the Repeater Fund was presented. The board acted to make this equipment available for sale. The board discussed repeater costs, donations, and how funds are reported. On a split vote the board authorized creation of a trust fund for repeater capital costs.

The board was reminded that it has authority to authorize payment of bills.

Alvin Carlson presented the Treasurer's Report. We have received $2,406.25 and expended $ 747.97 in this budget year.

Will Sheffield reported that *Sea-Pac* Early Bird registrations were about at last year's registration total. Banquet ticket sales are down from last year.

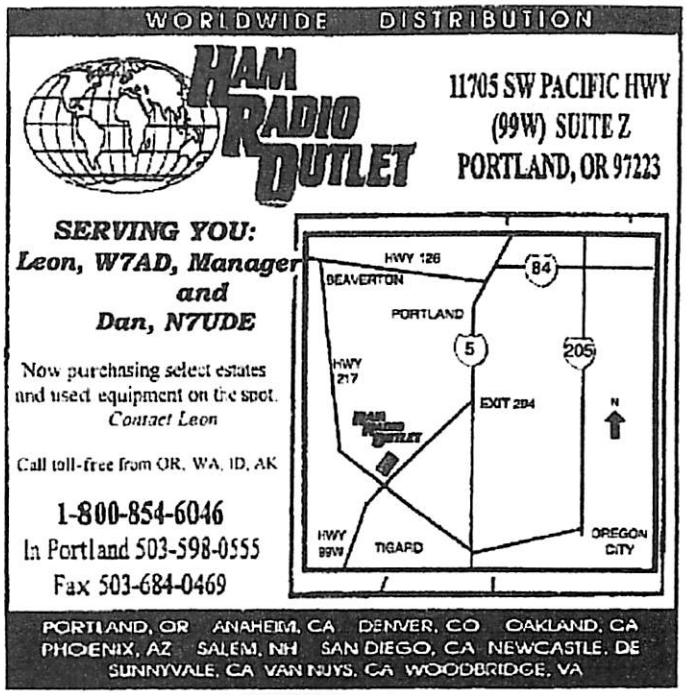
Our Field Day site will be West Union Elementary School. Everett has sought a declaration by the Governor of Amateur Radio Week the week of Field Day.

An "Executive Summary" of board actions will be prepared by the Secretary for publication in The OSCILLATOR.

Field Day, from Page 2

We had lots of help getting this all going. Thanks to Jack KA7HOJ for the trailer, Dave W8NF for towing it (and operating), Paul KC7PMU for the dipole and tuner (and for noticing the flagpole!), and Ernie K7EAJ for the vertical. Alvin KB7VHI allowed use of his Motor Home for power and cooling. JD K7JDF, Steve, KE7EIQ, and Don KK7TN coordinated this year's effort.

Our greatest need for future Field Days is operators.



CORY KD7THW RECEIVES MICKLEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Chuck Mickley Memorial Scholarship has been awarded this year to Cory Chase, KD7THW. Cory has been licensed since 2002 and enjoys using amateur radio to keep in touch with friends and his father Arnold, W7CRI. Cory is active with Clackamas County ARES and the Wilsonville Amateur Radio Team. He also volunteered as an operator for CERT rodeo training and has served as net control for the 146.96 youth net.

In addition to ham radio activities, Cory has been an active Boy Scout in troop 194, where he was appointed Senior Patrol Leader and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He serves with his church's youth group and has traveled with them to Canada and Mexico to help the less fortunate. He enjoys photography and contributes photos of student events to his school's media.

Cory graduated Wilsonville High School this spring and plans to major in Electronics Engineering this fall.

The scholarship was formally awarded at the *Sea-Pac* banquet program. Thanks go to Scholarship committee members Claire N7CM, Maureen KA7LAP, and Dale K7FW.

73,

Carl WS7L

2 Meter QSOs with Hawaii

On August 31, 1999 a new world record for two meter contacts was made with a QSO between KH6HME and W1LP/mm. KH6HME was on Mauna Loa on the Island of Hawai'i while W1LP/mm was South of Cabo San Lucas off the coast of Mexico. They held a 2-way SSB QSO on 144.170 MHz over a distance of 2,954 miles (4,754 km).

The last week of June this year, the KH6HME beacons on 2 meters and 440 MHz were heard at various locations in Oregon and Washington. On 144.170 MHz, Eric Smith, KB7DQH worked Paul Lieb, KH6HME at 0307Z, June 26, 2006, a distance of 4,158 km. The KH6HME beacons are located on the slopes of the Mauna Loa volcano at an elevation of 8200', with the exception of the 6 meter beacon which is located in lower Puna in the Hawaiian Beaches Subdivision on the Big Island of Hawai'i.

The first beacon started operating on 432.075 MHz in April 1979. In 1980 the 1296 Mhz beacon was activated. In 1981 the 144.170 MHz. beacon started sending it's signals to the Mainland West Coast of the United States. There is a 10 GHz. beacon which is turned on when conditions are favorable.

The drive to the beacon site takes about 3 hours. Listen for the beacon(s) to stop keying, then you will know Paul is there. KH6HME will be operating on the beacon frequencies using CW or SSB, not the standard calling frequencies of 144.200 MHz or 432.100 MHz.

KH6HME Beacon's are located in grid BK29go. They are on 50.061, 144.17, 432.075, while the KH7R Beacon in grid BL01 is at 50.065. There is another two meter beacon, with the call sign KH7R in grid square BL01 at 144.184.

VE EXAM SESSION

Monthly VE sessions continue on the first Saturday of each month. Our thanks to Carl WS7L for his leadership. Our next session will be held at SEA-PAC on June 17th. Contact Carl for a seat.

Our Sea-Pac session was fairly busy. We had a total of 19 applicants and issued 5 upgrades to General and 4 new Technician licenses. In addition, three applicants earned credit for a test element without upgrading. 7 of our applicants will study more and try again. On July 1st, we had three candidates all of whom earned their Technician license.

Thanks go to VEs Claire N7CM, Ernie K7EAJ, Phil WA7URV, Jerry NB7PX, Andy KE7AUB, Gordon W6NW, Rich KD7GIE, and Jim KG6FFI. I hope most of you can serve again at next year's Sea Pac. The July1st session used the volunteers, John KA7BRZ, Everett W6ABM and Dennis AC7UY. The next session will be August 5th at Ronler Acres.

Carl Clawson WS7L is our OTVARC VE team leader. The Club offers all exams on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM at Ronler Acres Fire Station, 4455 NW 229th Ave, Hillsboro, across from Hillsboro Stadium.

Pre-register for exams by contacting Carl, WS7L, at ws7l@arrl.net or by phone at 503.629.5796.

Outgoing NTS Traffic Routes

Formal traffic is handled on most all nets. The timing and handling method for entering traffic into the NTS depends on the time of day. Outgoing traffic in Washington County is handled most conveniently on the following nets and times:

* NTTN (Northwest Traffic and Training Net) (the 605 net) at 6:05 pm on the linked repeaters of the Western Oregon Radio Club including the 145.27, 145.43, 145.47, 146.80, and 443.150 MHz repeaters, all having

Outgoing NTS Traffic Routes, Continued from Col 1

a pl tone of 107.2 which is timed to pass to OSN (Oregon State Net).

* ARES D1 (Amateur Radio Emergency Service District 1) net at 7:30 pm on the 147.320 MHz repeater. Traffic passed on this net usually will be sent the next day either on DRN7 (Daytime Regional Net 7) or the Noon time net.

The summer sun is your best invitation to enlist the sun screen in the Northwest's most effective lip balm!

OREGON TRAIL LIP BALM

Created by: Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP
mcorourke@netzero.com

Available Now at: The Hillsboro Pool & Recreation Center

HAMVENTION HAMVENTION HAMVENTION

Those are the wondrous words that draw ham radio operators to Dayton, Ohio in the middle of May. Every ham should go to Dayton at least once. This was our year.

We stopped at a fast food restaurant east of Indianapolis and talked to 4 hams. They were making their annual trip to Dayton from Wisconsin. They gave us good directions to Hara Arena. We were almost there! Tickets are $20 apiece for the three days but $25 at the door. Ticket badge holders are NOT provided. High school students sell them for $1 as a fundraiser.

Friday morning we paid our $8 for handicapped parking and entered the arena. There is no parking at the arena for non-handicapped people. There is some paid parking adjacent to the arena but the best way to get to Hara is to pay $3 a day or $8 for the three days and ride the shuttle bus from Salem Mall.

Hara Arena is old and dirty. It reminds me of the old part of the Expo Center. It has multiple levels that you move between via ramps. TV monitors throughout the arena display the hourly prize numbers. The commercial vendors are indoors and the flea market is outdoors.

The first day was for getting oriented and checking out the Hugh flea market. There were a lot of empty spaces but still enough to faze any shopper. Even the commercial spots were not all filled. Mel talked to a ham that got a power supply for $25 from an estate sale at the flea market. Mel wished he had seen it first.

We wanted to hook up with Wayne Schuler AI9Q but had not made any arrangements. At lunch time we had just got our food from an outside vendor when Wayne walked by with his lunch. We joined him .It seemed every time we went for food we ran into Wayne. We did have a nice dinner with him one evening.

Saturday we paid our $8 parking again and had a great day. Kenwood gave away hats but only one per person. They stamped your ticket. Mel sweet talked them into extras so he brought back a bunch of them that he will pass out at the meeting. They are special 50th anniversary hats

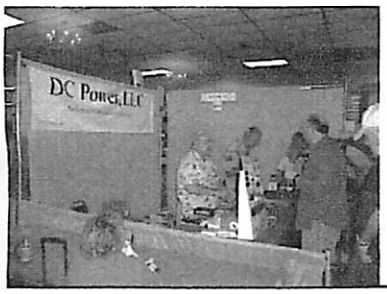
Icom had cute young ladies in white short shorts pulling around wagons that were filled with hats and rain ponchos. However, they quickly ran out of the freebies. After the first day, every time we saw them the wagons were empty.

Sunday we arrived a little later in the morning and did not have to pay the $8 parking.
The door prize drawing gave us a bit of excitement. There were 15 main prizes. As they pulled the tickets they announced only the state of the winner. One ticket was from Oregon. Since we each had a ticket and there were not many Oregonians there our chances were good but not good enough as a guy from Hillsboro won. Mel met him at Sea-Pac. They awarded over $60,000 in prizes.

Linda KC7YTD

There is always something worth looking at in the Flea Market at Dayton.

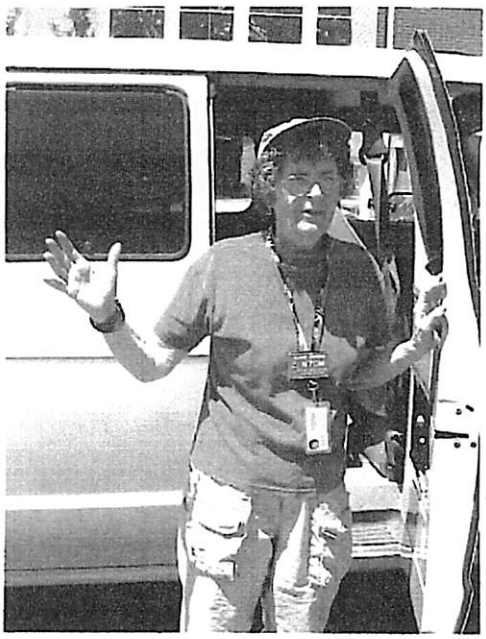
Linda and Mel just outside Hara Arena.

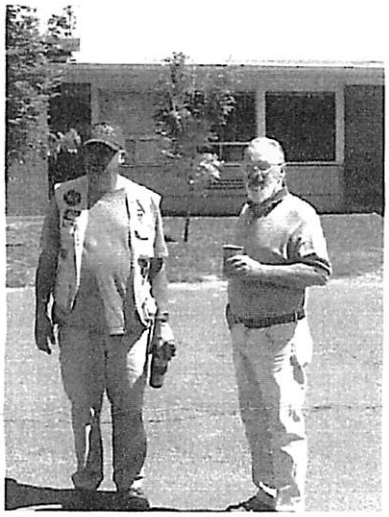


Some vendors are easily recognized.

Wayne Schuler joined us for a quick picture.

FIELD DAY PIX





From Top Left: Daschiell, top operator by contacts on GOTA station; Welcome sign in front of West Union School; Claire describes the size of the box needed for the chicken for dinner; Left: Don and Don discuss the strength of the coffee; Club trailer 50% ready to go.

OSU Professor Takes Biodiesel Road Trip

Oregon State professor, David Hackleman W7QH hit the road June 29th in his Dodge Ram pickup truck. He is headed for West Virginia where he will teach a summer science program. Dave is retired from HP where he was known for development of assorted technology for the company. Currently, he is Linus Pauling Professor of Chemical Engineering at Oregon State University.

What makes his journey even more interesting, in addition to his intention to operate moblile en route, is that the Dodge will be powered solely by biodiesel fuel. He wants to use his cross-country sojourn as a demonstration project for biodiesel. He claims this fuel can help reduce U.S. reliance on foreign oil and improve the prospects of farmers who grow the raw products that go into biodiesel.

"I feel it's a very important thing for us," he said. "Oregon can grow its own fuel," Dave is quoted by the Associated Press. He told an AP reporter that he intends to stop at national parks and places where people are gathered in hopes that his truck and his message will get people interested in asking questions about biodiesel. Oregon's I-5 has biodiesel available, but he'll be less likely to find places to refuel with certified biodiesel as he heads east. He outfitted his pickup with a 39-gallon fuel tank, and two 50-gallon tanks in the bed, which should last about 2,500 miles.

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Email: ai9q@arrl.net Fax (360) 882-6590

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

22 July 2006
Coos County Hamfest
THE BARN (Bandon Community Center)
Bandon, Oregon
Coos County Radio Club
http://www.coosradioclub.org
Talk-In: 146.61 (no tone) & 146.52 simplex
Ron Oliver, W7VU
2041 King Lane
Myrtle Point, OR 97458
Phone: 541.572.5546

29 July 2006
Covered Tailgate & Swapmeet
Chehalis Valley ARS
Contact: John Ellingson, K7OSK
18140 Mi-lane SW
Rochester, WA 98579
http://www.cvars.org/swapmeet.htm
Talk-In: 147.06 (PL 110.7); 146.58
Phone: 360-791-7934
Fax: 360-273-5929
Email: k7osk@boatanchor.com

FOR SALE

ICOM
IC-706MKIIG
$500.00
From the Estate of Chad AD7DA - In Banks

Call Linda, 503.330.4568

(includes cable and small antenna
To be taken down)

DC POWER

We know how to make connections

Wes Allen, K7WWG President
665 SW 167th Ave. 503-531-4081
Beaverton, Oregon 97006

Why Computers Sometimes Crash!

(To be read aloud!)

by Dr. Seuss

If a packet hits a pocket on a socket on a port, and the bus is interrupted at a very last resort, and the access of the memory makes your floppy disk abort, then the socket packet pocket has an error to report.

If your cursor finds a menu item followed by a dash, and the double-clicking icon puts your window in the trash, and your data is corrupted cause the index doesn't hash, then your situation's hopeless and your system's gonna crash!

If the label on the cable on the table at your house, says the network is connected to the button on your mouse, but your packets want to tunnel to another protocol, that's repeatedly rejected by the printer down the hall.

And your screen is all distorted by the side effects of gauss, so your icons in the window are as wavy as a souse; then you may as well reboot and go out with a bang,' cuz sure as I'm a poet, the sucker's gonna hang.

When the copy on your floppy's getting sloppy in the disk, and the macro code instructions is causing unnecessary risk, then you'll have to flash the memory and you'll want to RAM your ROM, and then quickly turn off the computer and be sure to tell your Mom!

Well, that certainly clears things up for me.

How about you?

TRAVELERS' JULY PLAN

The Travelers' are a special interest group within OTVARC. Any member of the club is welcome, as well as other hams interested in camping and RVing. etc.). In July, the group will be camping on the Columbia River. This is a annual highlight event.

July 15-16 Skamokawa Park
Columbia River

For more information, contact
Betty Mickley N7REX at n7rex@teleport.com.

97123-7623

CLUB MEETING
JULY 12TH

Web: WWW.OTVARC.ORG
w7otv@arrl.net
Simplex: 147.54 MHz
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz
440.350 MHz (127.3)
Editor: Everett W6ABM
w6abm@arrl.net

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OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
880 NE 25th Ave. Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

SEAPAC
25th Year

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION
ARRL CONVENTION
www.seapac.org
June 15, 16 & 17, 2007

NO-CODE AMATEUR RADIO CLASS

FREE

TVF & R Fire Station
Murray Rd and Butner Rd
Beaverton
1:00 – 4:00 PM

July 29th - August 5th – August 12th

No fees for the course.

New Question Pool (July, 2006)

Presented by:
Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club